

7. VAIS vrJ^NABA, by his magnitude. Is
 ail men,*
 and is to be worshipped^ as the diffuser
 of manifold
 light, in- offerings of nutritions viands. ^b
 AGIH, the

an identification not inconsistent with *Vaidik*
 theogony, which re-
 solves all the divinities into three,— Fire, Air-,
 and the Sun,
 and those three, again, into one, or the Sun
 (*Nirukta*, VII., 4).
 But the Scholiast • says, we are to understand
Vaiswdnara^ in
 this verse, as the *Agni* of the firmament, the
vaidyuta, the light-
 ning or electric fire. The firmament, or middle
 region, is, properly,
 that of *Vayu*, the "Wind, or *oflndra*; the inferior
 region, or earth,
 is the proper sphere of *Agni*; and that of the
 upper region, or
 heaven, of the Sun. The Scholiast cites a
 passage from the
Niru Ida^ VII., 21, in which it is discussed who
Vaiswdnara is, and
 two opinions are compared, — one, which places "hrm
 io. the middle
 region, and identifies him with *Indra* or *Yayu*, or
 both, in which
 character he sends rain, an office that the
 terrestrial *Agm* cannot
 discharge ; and another, which identifies him with
Surya, or the
 Sun, in the upper sphere. Both are, however,
 considered, by the
 Scholiast, to be untenable, chiefly from the
 etymologies of the
 name, which make *Vaiswanara* an *Agni*, the fire — as
 above stated
 — of the middle region, or lightning ; from which,
 when fallen to
 earth, the terrestrial fire is born, and from which,
 also, the rain is
 indirectly generated, the burnt- offering ascending
 to the sun ; and
 it is, in consequence, from the sun that rain descends
 : *Vmswdnara*

is, therefore^ an *Agni*. According to *Paurdmk* astronomy, *Vais-*
wdnara is the central path of the sun; in mythology,
 he occurs as-
 one of the *Ddnavas*. The cloud is termed, in the
 text, *&ambara>*
 who is, elsewhere, called an *Asura**

^a *ViswakrisMi*, literally rendered, all men : the
 Scholiast says,
 of whom all men are same nature,— *-swi&k&tah*.

^b *Bharadwdjeshu*, — in sacrifices which present
 food in the shape
 of nutritious (*pushtilara*) oblations of clarified
 butter (*hams*}. Or
 it may mean, who is to be worshipped by the
RisMs termed
radtdvdjas, or of the *gotra*. or race,